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Companies cited for environmental incidents

February 22, 2013

By ELOISE OGDEN - Regional Editor (eogden@minotdailynews.com) , Minot Daily News

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NEW TOWN The Three Affiliated Tribes' Energy Department has issued a total of $80,000 in environmental citations in recent weeks to three oil-field-related companies working on the Fort Berthold Reservation.

The most recent citation was for $25,000 to JNS Logistics of Culbertson, Mont., for illegal dumping on private land at a site called the Sage Pond in the Mandaree area. The incident occurred on Jan. 30 and the citation was issued this week.

Carson Hood Jr., interim administrator of the tribal Energy Department, said oil-field companies are policing each other to prevent problems. When the Sage Pond incident occurred, he said the driver of another company working on the reservation noticed a truck backed up to the pond just off BIA Road 10 in the Mandaree area and the truck was dumping a substance into the pond. The other company's driver drove his truck up to the pond and blocked the road, preventing the truck doing the dumping from leaving the area and waited there until tribal officials could reach the area.

Although it was determined later that the truck was emptying fresh water into the pond, Hood said the manner in which the water was improperly discharged was illegal, according to the tribal Environmental Enforcement Codes.

The Three Affiliated Tribes' business council passed the Environmental Enforcement Codes in 2011.

Earlier, a $50,000 citation for illegal dumping was issued by the tribal Energy Department to Kuhl Trucking of Irwin, Iowa, for an incident, also in the Mandaree area. In that incident, which occurred Nov. 20, 2012, production wastewater was dumped. The incident occurred on private property on a lease road en route to a well pad.

Slawson Exploration Co., based in Denver, also was issued a citation for $5,000 for a well blowout that occurred near Van Hook in mid-December 2012.

Hood said the citation was not for illegal dumping, but the blowout occurred because of mechanical failure. The blowout caused oil, gas and formation water to spew out and covered fields. The site is about half a mile north of Lake Sakakawea.

Slawson has completed the spill cleanup, Hood said.

He said a couple smaller citations have been issued to companies during the past summer. He said those citations for spills were for between $200 and $500.

Hood said the Three Affiliated Tribes' Energy Department is actively pursuing full enforcement of the tribes' Environmental Enforcement

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Codes. "This is unacceptable and will not be tolerated, and we will prosecute to the full extent of the law," he said.

Hundreds of companies are working in the oil field on the Fort Berthold Reservation in many types of work, ranging from pipeline to drilling companies.

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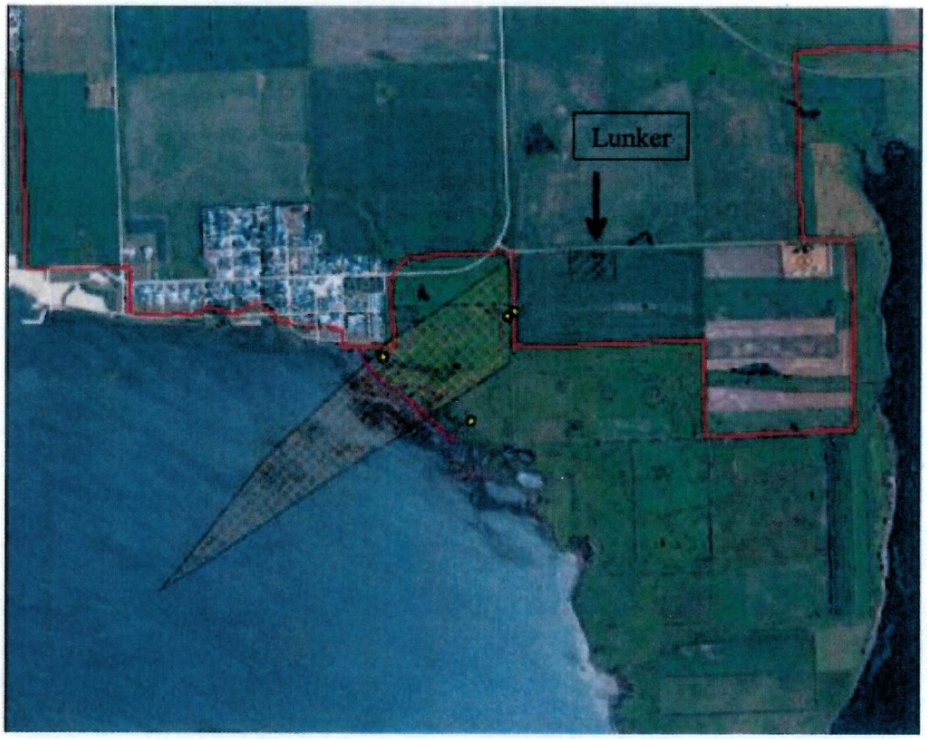
Figure 1. Areas impacted by Lunker Federal #2-33-4H.



Highlighted features in Figure 1 include:

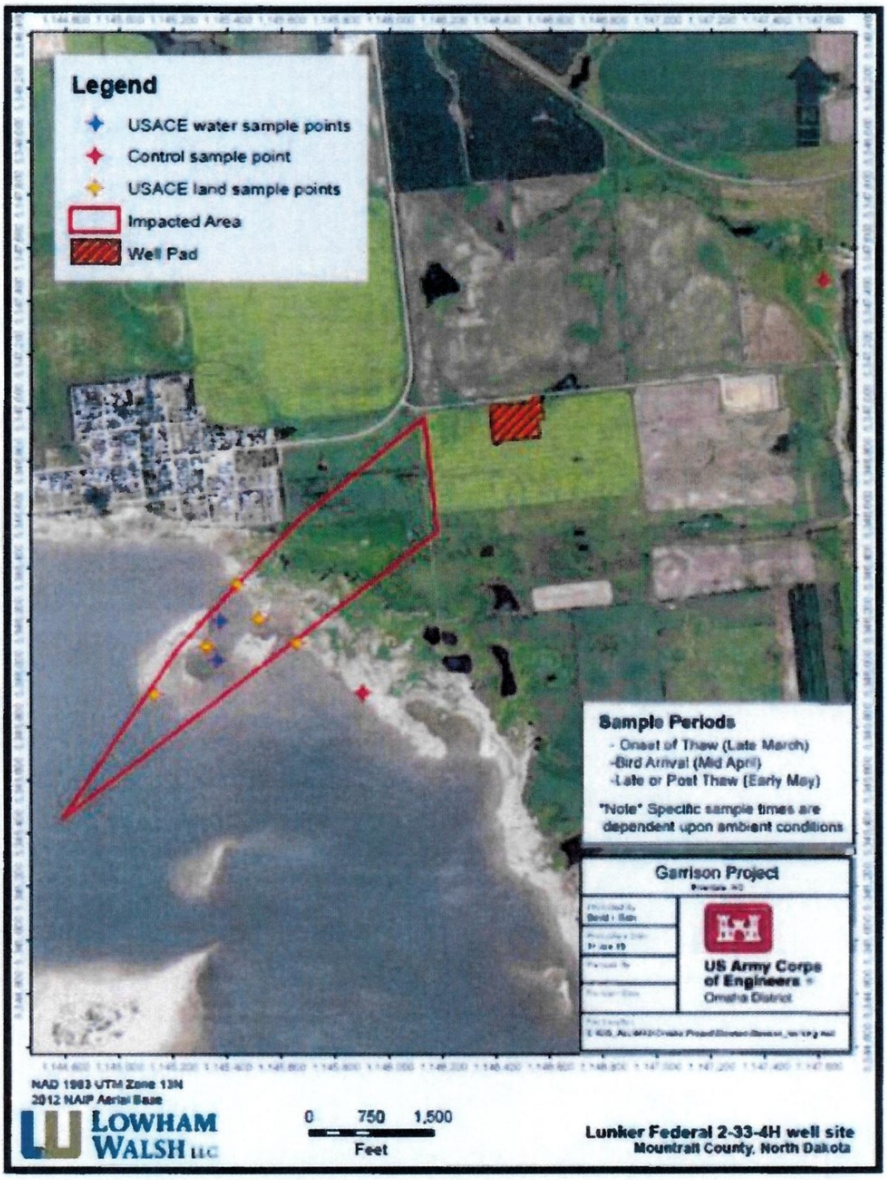
1. A red line depicting the Garrison Project (USACE) boundary
2. A black line enclosing a yellow cross hatch pattern depicting the main impact zone
3. Yellow dots depicting installed short-section hay filter strips
4. A purple line depicting an installed long-section hay filter strip with sorbent boom strips installed in major drainage pathways

Impacts to the area immediately north of the Lunker pad were addressed via scooping and hauling of impacted snow and soil as described in a report entitled "*Progress on Cleanup of Lunker Federal #2-33-4H*", issued February 6, 2013 by Lowham Walsh to Slawson.

Impacts to the area southwest of the Lunker pad are split between two tracts: 1.) Privately held farmland neighboring the pad, and 2.) Land held by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), but managed by North Dakota Department of Fish and Game (NDG&F), identified as the Van Hook Wildlife Management Area (WMA). The second tract, with impacted area, is shown in Figure 1 with the impacted area highlighted with yellow, crossed lines. Cleanup of the first tract is described in the previously cited report.

This report describes sampling campaigns, deciduous and coniferous tree spraying, and a prescribed burn that were performed on the second tract of land. The tree spraying zones and the prescribed burn zones are shown in Figures 2 and 3.

Figure 4. Figure of Impacted Wildlife Management Area and Sample Locations.



It should be noted that the impacted zone is identified as critical habitat for the Piping Plover, a threatened species, by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Table 16. 9 USACE WATER Results

Lab Sample ID			L632831-01	L634434-10	L639811-02
Client Sample ID			WS01-042513	SS06-050613	WS02-060513
Collection Date			4/25/2013	5/6/2013	6/5/2013
Method	Parameter	Units	Value	Value	Value
9056	Bromide	mg/l	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0
9056	Chloride	mg/l	2.2	2.7	3.7
9056	Fluoride	mg/l	0.13	0.12	0.22
9056	Sulfate	mg/l	66	81	110
2320 B-2011	Alkalinity	mg/l	71	73	120
2320 B-2011	Alkalinity, Bicarbonate	mg/l	63	73	120
2320 B-2011	Alkalinity, Carbonate	mg/l	<20	<20	<20
2320 B-2011	Alkalinity, Hydroxide	mg/l	<20	<20	<20
130.1	Hardness, Total (mg/L as $CaCO_3$)	mg/l	96	120	170
Calc.	Total Nitrogen	mg/l	0.97	0.72	0.44
350.1	Ammonia Nitrogen	mg/l	0.12	<0.10	0.33
9040C	pH	su	8.0	8.2	8.2
353.2	Nitrate-Nitrite	mg/l	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10
365.4	Phosphorus,Total	mg/l	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10
9050A	Specific Conductance	µmhos/cm	290	350	470
351.2	Kjeldahl Nitrogen, TKN	mg/l	0.97	0.72	0.44
2130 B-2011	Turbidity	NTU	2.4	2.6	2.2
2540 C-2011	Dissolved Solids	mg/l	140	200	320
6010B	Aluminum	mg/l	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10
6010B	Antimony	mg/l	<0.020	<0.0010*	<0.0010*
6010B	Arsenic	mg/l	<0.020	0.0014*	0.0020*
6010B	Barium	mg/l	0.026	0.030	0.047
6010B	Beryllium	mg/l	<0.0020	<0.0010*	<0.0010*
6010B	Boron	mg/l	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20
6010B	Cadmium	mg/l	<0.0050	<0.00050*	<0.00050*

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Method	**Parameter**	**Units**	**Value**	**Value**	**Value**
6010B	Calcium	mg/l	29	32	44
6010B	Chromium	mg/l	<0.010	<0.0020*	<0.0020*
6010B	Copper	mg/l	<0.020	<0.0020*	<0.0020*
6010B	Iron	mg/l	0.26	0.19	0.27
6010B	Lead	mg/l	<0.0050	<0.0010*	<0.0010*
6010B	Magnesium	mg/l	8.4	11	19
6010B	Manganese	mg/l	0.16	0.037	0.098
6010B	Nickel	mg/l	<0.020	<0.0010*	0.0034*
6010B	Potassium	mg/l	2.1	2.9	3.8
6010B	Selenium	mg/l	<0.020	<0.0010*	<0.0010*
6010B	Silicon	mg/l	0.80	0.37	0.80
6010B	Silver	mg/l	<0.010	<0.0010*	<0.0010*
6010B	Sodium	mg/l	19	17	24
6010B	Thallium	mg/l	0.022	<0.0010*	<0.0010*
6010B	Zinc	mg/l	<0.030	<0.010*	<0.010*
Calc.	Silica	mg/l	1.7	0.79	1.7
8015D/GRO	TPH (GC/FID) Low Fraction	mg/l	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10
8015D/GRO	α,α,α-Trifluorotoluene (FID)	% Rec.	97.8	98.5	99.9
8260B	Benzene	mg/l	<0.0010	<0.0010	<0.0010
8260B	Toluene	mg/l	<0.0050	<0.0050	<0.0050
8260B	Ethylbenzene	mg/l	<0.0010	<0.0010	<0.0010
8260B	Total Xylenes	mg/l	<0.0030	<0.0030	<0.0030
8260B	Toluene-d_8	% Rec.	101	100	99.3
8260B	Dibromofluoromethane	% Rec.	107	104	101
8260B	α,α,α-Trifluorotoluene	% Rec.	104	104	99.7
8260B	4-Bromofluorobenzene	% Rec.	108	95.1	101

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Method	**Parameter**	**Units**	**Value**	**Value**	**Value**
8015	C_{10}-C_{28} Diesel Range	mg/l	<0.10	0.11	<0.10
8015	C_{28}-C_{40} Oil Range	mg/l	<0.10	<0.10	<0.10
8015	o-Terphenyl	% Rec.	108	102	87.1
8270C-SIM	Anthracene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Acenaphthene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Acenaphthylene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Benzo(a)anthracene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Benzo(a)pyrene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Benzo(b)fluoranthene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Benzo(k)fluoranthene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Chrysene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Dibenz(a,h)anthracene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Fluoranthene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Fluorene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Naphthalene	mg/l	<0.00025	<0.00025	<0.00025
8270C-SIM	Phenanthrene	mg/l	<0.000050	<0.000050	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	Pyrene	mg/l	<0.000050	0.000063	<0.000050
8270C-SIM	1-Methylnaphthalene	mg/l	<0.00025	<0.00025	<0.00025
8270C-SIM	2-Methylnaphthalene	mg/l	<0.00025	<0.00025	<0.00025
8270C-SIM	2-Chloronaphthalene	mg/l	<0.00025	<0.00025	<0.00025
8270C-SIM	Nitrobenzene-d_5	% Rec.	116	107	105
8270C-SIM	2-Fluorobiphenyl	% Rec.	123	105	107
8270C-SIM	p-Terphenyl-d_{14}	% Rec.	125	107	54.7

* Indicates analysis performed by Method 6020